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Harris A. Wolin

Attorney Docket No.: SAIC 19.190 (100788-00051)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Marcello Toncelli
Serial No. : 10/031,552
Filed : January 18, 2002
Title : **Improved Method for the Production of Slabs ...**
Examiner : Christopher A. Fiorilla
Group Art Unit : 1731

February 13, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

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As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a final Office Action, a fee of \$180 accompanies this document in accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97(c) and 1.17(p).

The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR §§1.104 (a) and 1.106 (b), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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